



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
Legislative and Public Affairs Staff • 1400 Independence Ave SW • Room 4801-S • Washington DC 20250-0705
Phone: (202) 720-4323 • Fax: (202) 690-4083 • TTY: (800) 877-8339 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Wayne Maloney (202) 690-0498

Michele McLeod (406) 585-2587

DORR ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF CLARK JOHNSON TO HEAD RURAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN MONTANA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 2007—Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Thomas Dorr today announced the appointment of Clark V. Johnson as Montana State Director for Rural Development. Until recently, Johnson served as chief of staff to former U.S. Senator Conrad Burns.

“Clark Johnson brings a wealth of experience to this position,” said Dorr. “As a former banker and vocational agriculture instructor, he is uniquely qualified to head our Rural Development efforts in Montana.”

A resident of Bozeman, Johnson holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Agricultural Education and a Masters of Public Administration degree from Montana State University. He also attended The Pacific Coast School of Banking and the American Bankers Association School of Commercial Lending, along with the University of Virginia. A former teacher, fire chief and firefighter trainer, he also served as Vice President and Director of Western National Bank of Wolf Point and City Manager of the City of Bozeman before becoming chief of staff to Senator Burns.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural communities. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested over \$72 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Over 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

#

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY).